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considered to be Federal funds provided by grant or contract.

(b) *A violation of the agreement means:*

(1) That the recipient has been convicted of, or judgment has been entered against the recipient for, a violation of any of the laws listed in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, with respect to its LSC grant or contract, by the court having jurisdiction of the matter, and any appeals of the conviction or judgment have been exhausted or the time for the appeal has expired; or

(2) An employee or board member of the recipient has been convicted of, or judgment has been entered against the employee or board member for, a violation of any of the laws listed in paragraph (a)(1) of this section with respect to a recipient's grant or contract with LSC by the court having jurisdiction of the matter, and any appeals of the conviction or judgment have been exhausted or the time for appeal has expired, and the Corporation finds that the recipient has knowingly or through gross negligence allowed the employee or board member to engage in such activities.

§ 1640.3 Contractual agreement.

As a condition of receiving LSC funds, a recipient must enter into a written contractual agreement with the Corporation that, with respect to its LSC funds, it will be subject to the Federal laws listed in § 1640.2(a)(1). The agreement shall include a statement that all of the recipient's employees and board members have been informed of such Federal law and of the consequences of a violation of such law, both to the recipient and to themselves as individuals.

§ 1640.4 Violation of agreement.

(a) A violation of the agreement under § 1640.2(b)(1) shall result in the recipient's LSC grant or contract being terminated by the Corporation without need for a termination hearing. During the pendency of any appeal of a conviction or judgment, the Corporation may take such steps as it determines necessary to safeguard its funds.

(b) A violation of the agreement under § 1640.2(b)(2) shall result in the recipient's LSC grant or contract being terminated by the Corporation. Prior

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to such termination, the Corporation shall provide notice and an opportunity to be heard for the sole purpose of determining whether the recipient knowingly or through gross negligence allowed the employee or board member to engage in the activities which led to the conviction or judgment. During the pendency of any appeal of a conviction or judgment or during the pendency of a hearing, the Corporation may take such steps as it determines necessary to safeguard its funds.

PART 1642—ATTORNEYS' FEES

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SOURCE: 62 FR 25864, May 12, 1997, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1642.1 Purpose.

This part is designed to insure that recipients or employees of recipients do not claim, or collect and retain attorneys' fees available under any Federal or State law permitting or requiring the awarding of attorneys' fees.

§ 1642.2 Definitions.

(a) *Attorneys' fees* means an award to compensate an attorney of the prevailing party made pursuant to common law or Federal or State law permitting or requiring the awarding of such fees or a payment to an attorney from a client's retroactive statutory benefits.

(b) *Attorneys' fees* do not include the following:

(1) Payments made to a recipient or an employee of a recipient for a case in which a court appoints the recipient employee to provide representation pursuant to a statute or court rule or practice equally applicable to all attorneys in the jurisdiction, and in which the recipient or employee receives

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compensation under the same terms and conditions as are applied generally to attorneys practicing in the court in which the appointment is made;

(2) Payments made to a recipient or an employee of a recipient pursuant to a grant, contract or other agreement by a governmental agency or other third party for representation of clients;

(3) Payments received as a result of sanctions imposed by a court for violations of court rules or practices, or statutes relating to court practice, including Rule 11 or discovery rules of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, or similar State court rules or practices, or statutes; and

(4) Reimbursement of costs and expenses from an opposing party or from a client pursuant to § 1642.6.

(c) An *award* is an order by a court or an administrative agency that the unsuccessful party pay the attorneys' fees of the prevailing party or an order by a court or administrative agency approving a settlement agreement of the parties which provides for payment of attorneys' fees by an adversarial party.

(d) To *claim* attorneys' fees means to include a request for attorneys' fees in any pleading.

§ 1642.3 Prohibition.

Except as permitted by § 1642.4, no recipient or employee of a recipient may claim, or collect and retain attorneys' fees in any case undertaken on behalf of a client of the recipient.

§ 1642.4 Applicability of restriction on attorneys' fees.

(a) The prohibition contained in § 1642.3 shall not apply to cases filed prior to April 26, 1996, except that the prohibition shall apply to any additional related claim for the client made in such a case on or subsequent to April 26, 1996.

(b) Except as permitted in paragraph (a) of this section, the prohibition contained in § 1642.3 shall apply to any case undertaken by a private attorney on behalf of an eligible client when the at-

torney receives compensation from a recipient to provide legal assistance to such client under the recipient's private attorney involvement (PAI) program, judicare program, contract or other financial arrangement.

§ 1642.5 Accounting for and use of attorneys' fees.

(a) Attorneys' fees received by a recipient pursuant to § 1642.4(a) for representation supported in whole or in part with funds provided by the Corporation shall be allocated to the fund in which the recipient's LSC grant is recorded in the same proportion that the amount of Corporation funds expended bears to the total amount expended by the recipient to support the representation.

(b) Attorneys' fees received pursuant to § 1642.4(a) shall be recorded during the accounting period in which the money from the fee award is actually received by the recipient and may be expended for any purpose permitted by the LSC Act, regulations and other law applicable at the time the money is received.

§ 1642.6 Acceptance of reimbursement from a client.

(a) When a case results in a recovery of damages or statutory benefits, a recipient may accept reimbursement from the client for out-of-pocket costs and expenses incurred in connection with the case, if the client has agreed in writing to reimburse the recipient for such costs and expenses out of any such recovery.

(b) A recipient may require a client to pay court costs when the client does not qualify to proceed *in forma pauperis* under the rules of the jurisdiction.

§ 1642.7 Recipient policies, procedures and recordkeeping.

The recipient shall adopt written policies and procedures to guide its staff in complying with this part and shall maintain records sufficient to document the recipient's compliance with this part.